

## ABSTRACT

5 A power control device for controlling a power of  
a light source of an optical beam directed to an optical  
medium. The power control device includes a reflected light  
detector for detecting reflected light from the optical  
medium when irradiated by an optical beam which is following  
a track; an arithmetic unit for calculating from the  
reflected light a transmissivity of light transmitted from  
10 a disk surface to a recording layer or an amount of directed  
light on the recording layer of the medium; and power control  
means for controlling the power of the light source for  
emission based on a calculation result produced by the  
arithmetic unit.

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